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CONGRATULATING NCAA MEN'S VOLLEYBALL CHAMPION LEWIS UNIVERSITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHOCOLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, Hollywood may have the script for its next sports movie classic. Think Hoosiers, the true story of how a small town high school basketball team became Indiana State Champions. Think David slays Goliath with little more than a wicked set, spike and serve. Think NCAA history. Just think about it.

No Division II team in NCAA collegiate history has ever won a team championship. In a sport dominated by California and other sun-soaked States, no men's volleyball team from a Midwest university has ever won a national title in the sport. No Chicago area university has won an NCAA national title in 40 years. That is, until now.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Lewis University Flyers, 2003 NCAA Men's Volleyball Champions, from Romeoville, Illinois, in my congressional district. Under the leadership of head coach David Deuser and assistant coach Ryan McNeil, Lewis University defeated second-ranked Brigham Young University in five breathtaking sets, in front of a national television audience and a sellout crowd.

Brigham Young has almost eight times the student body population of Lewis, not that they needed the extra motivation. Almost as impressive, the Flyers upset top-ranked and perennial powerhouse Pepperdine University in the semifinals to reach the title game.

Who are the Flyers? They are Enrique Escalante, Jose Castellano, Alex Karjavine, Weyni Johnson, Jeff Soler, Matt Miller, Ryan Stuntz, Fabiano Barreto, Gustavo Meyer, Kevin Miller, Brandon Sisk, Marco Quintana, Greg Pochopien, James Elsea and Jose Martins and student manager John Sullivan.

Mr. Speaker, all of Illinois, and especially the city of Romeoville, is proud of the team's accomplishments. In fact, alumni, educators and friends from across the country have called to personally congratulate the team and the university. These are exciting times in Romeoville.

There are two other things about these athletes that are not making the headlines and should. One, the team is a diverse group of student athletes. Four of them have received awards this year for outstanding academic achievement. Mr. Speaker, no matter the age, we all know how important it is for our student athletes to balance the books with time spent on the court.

Second, the Flyers have played the David versus Goliath role twice before. They reached the national semifinals

twice in 1996 and 1998, losing both times to UCLA.

What, my colleagues might ask, was the big difference this year? As my friend and president of Lewis University, Brother James Gaffney, said recently, "This year, David was well-armed." Even Brigham Young coach Tom Peterson graciously said, "Give Lewis all of the credit. They are a great team."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WARS AND CONTRACTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support an effort by the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), one of the most distinguished Members of this House. He has called for full disclosure of the massive unbid \$7 billion contract, that is 7,000 millions of dollars, that Halliburton Corporation has just received from the Department of Defense for the reconstruction of the demolished nation of Iraq. The emergency no-bid contract for Halliburton, again not competitively bid, is supposed to fight oil fires.

Vice President DICK CHENEY just happened to head up Halliburton Corporation after he left the first Bush administration and before rejoining this Bush administration. Reports indicate he currently receives \$180,000 per year in payments from Halliburton Corporation in the form of deferred compensation.

The company apparently will be able to expand this no-bid \$7 billion contract, first, to operate the oil fields themselves and, second, to distribute the oil to which our Nation is so hopelessly addicted.

In a letter to Lieutenant General Robert Flowers, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) said he did not mean to suggest that the Corps has intentionally misled anyone about Halliburton's contract. However, the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) is concerned, as all of us should be, about the reluctance of the Bush administration to provide complete information about the Halliburton contract and other contracts for the reconstruction of Iraq.

The gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) questioned how the long-term contracts for Halliburton could be reconciled with the administration's stated intent to give the Iraqi people control of the oil in Iraq.

The gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) said, "Only now, over 5 weeks

after the contract was first disclosed, are Members of Congress and the public learning that Halliburton Corporation may be asked to pump and distribute Iraqi oil under contract."

The gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) repeated the Corps' statement that the contract could be worth up to \$7 billion for up to 2 years. Mr. Speaker, as the United States begins the long and expensive process of rebuilding in the wreckage of Iraq, perhaps we should reflect on the process of massive unbid contracts, using taxpayer dollars, to the company that was formerly headed by the Vice President. If the press were awake in America, they would pursue this story to the very ends of the Earth.

If the Congress were more responsible in fulfilling its responsibility as a co-equal branch of government to our taxpayers, we would have hearings into this connection. If the death of Vince Foster is worthy of congressional investigations, then certainly unbid billions of dollars of contracts to Halliburton and others close to this administration deserve at least the same level of scrutiny.

This Member of Congress intends to offer a bill to assure competitive bidding in any contracts related to rebuilding in Iraq or Afghanistan. It is amazing that I even have to do this, and it will be interesting to see who opposes me.

The Atlanta Journal Constitution said in a recent editorial that the secret Halliburton deal endangers U.S. credibility. The Constitution questioned why a Halliburton subsidiary was the only company invited to bid on the Iraqi contract, why the contract was kept secret from the public until 2 weeks after it was signed this March, and why the true scope of the contract was not disclosed until last week. All are legitimate questions, particularly in a Nation that is trying to inculcate the rule of law and transparency as part of the nation-building process in Iraq.

The Journal Constitution also raised questions about a previous contract between the Halliburton subsidiary and the U.S. Army during Mr. CHENEY's reign at Halliburton. The GAO determined in 1997 that Halliburton charged the Army more than \$85 per sheet of plywood for building projects in Bosnia. A follow-up report in 2000 said the subsidiary's crews were being paid to clean offices as often as four times a day, and the company receives more than \$2 billion for work being done in the Balkans.

Even if the Halliburton subsidiary were the only company capable of doing work in Iraq, which most oil industry people contradict, then why all the secrecy about the no-bid contract?

Mr. Speaker, Reuters News Service reported Halliburton has disclosed that it made approximately \$2.4 million in improper payments to Nigeria, another oil regime getting favorable tax treatment.

The gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) should be commended for his dogged pursuit of the truth. The American public should wish him well.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today to talk about the high cost that Americans pay for prescription drugs, particularly relative to the industrialized world.

As I have mentioned on the floor before, we believe that Americans should pay their fair share in terms of the cost of the research and development of these miracle drugs. We even feel that it is fair enough that we should subsidize some of the developing countries, such as those in sub-Saharan Africa. We think, however, that it is outrageous that we are required to subsidize the starving Swiss.

Let me talk a little bit about what we did in the last 3 weeks. I was in Germany 3 weeks ago, and one of my staffers was able to go to one of the pharmacies at the Munich airport. Most of us know that when we buy things at the airport, that is usually not the cheapest place to buy things; and we went to the pharmacy there at the Munich airport and bought some drugs.

Among those we bought was Glucophage. Glucophage for 30 tablets, 850 milligrams, we bought at the Munich airport for \$5 American. That same drug at a pharmacy in Minnesota back in my district is not \$5 but \$29.95.

Cipro is a very effective antibiotic made by a German company by the name of Bayer. They came up with Bayer aspirins. They have been around a long time, but Cipro became very important when we went through the anthrax scare here in the Capitol complex. We purchased it at \$35.12 for 10 tablets at 250 milligrams. That same package in Minnesota sells for \$55; \$35 dollars in Germany, \$55 in the United States.

Actually the story gets worse. Another very popular drug, Zestril, we bought for \$25.04 American. It sells in the United States for \$59.95, more than double the price for the same drug, and the list gets worse.

One of the worst examples is this. This is a drug called Tamoxifen. Tamoxifen is a miracle drug. It is probably the best drug ever developed in terms of treating breast cancer. We bought this drug at the Munich airport at the pharmacy there, 60 tablets, 20 milligrams for \$59.05 American. This same drug, if we buy it here in pharmacies in Washington, D.C., will sell for \$360; \$60 in Germany, \$360 for exactly the same drug here in the United States.

What makes this story even worse is that the taxpayers paid for almost all of the research costs to develop this miracle drug. It was developed essen-

tially by the NIH. The company went out and got the patents, and now Americans are paying again.

Many of my colleagues say, well, shame on the pharmaceutical industry; and it is easy to say that, but I do not say shame on the pharmaceutical industry. I say shame on us. We are the policymakers. We are the ones who have created an environment that the pharmaceutical companies are taking advantage of; and shame on us for letting this happen, and let me give my colleagues another shame on us.

There was research that came out just a few days ago, the first time I had seen it; and what it said was that 29 percent of the prescriptions written to seniors in this country go unfilled because they cannot afford them. Shame on us.

We have created an environment where seniors today cannot afford the prescriptions that doctors write for them to save their lives. Shame on us. That is the problem.

The answer is open up markets. We have open markets for virtually everything else. The Food and Drug Administration allows hundreds and millions of tons of food to come into our country with virtually no inspection; but if a senior tries to import Tamoxifen to save their lives from Munich, Germany, they are treated as common criminals. Shame on us.

The answer is to pass commonsense, reimportation language this year. We are going to be talking about prescription drug benefits under Medicare here in the next several weeks in the Congress; but if we do not start seriously talking about affordable, if we do not talk about what we are going to do to control prices in this whole thing, there is not enough money in the Federal Treasury to pay for that benefit because we know the Congressional Budget Office tells us that over the next 10 years seniors in this country will spend \$1.8 trillion on prescriptions. We have allotted \$400 billion in this budget resolution over the next 10 years to take care not only of a prescription drug benefit but also to modernize Medicare, which is the right thing to do, and equalize the reimbursements.

The bottom line is that there is not enough money in this budget or any budget to pay for these huge disparities. Americans deserve world-class drugs at world market prices.

TEXAS REDISTRICTING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, hypocrisy. According to the dictionary, hypocrisy is defined as a feigning to be what one is not or to believe what one does not.

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Mr. Speaker, I think hypocrisy is a good description of the recent state-

ment of the Texas Speaker of the House, Tom Craddick.

Americans have watched with interest over the last several days where 52 courageous Democratic legislators left the Texas Legislature, broke a quorum, and went to Ardmore, Oklahoma, in order to allow Texas citizens to have a voice in shaping their new congressional districts for the next decade. They were the ones that stopped a secret plan of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) and Mr. Craddick that very few people in Texas had seen; that would have eventually destroyed communities of interest, distorted communities of interest across our State. They stopped that from happening without public input or awareness.

I think these 52 Democrats are heroes. But Mr. Craddick, who did not like that walkout by those 52 legislators, called them, in effect, chickens, along with his other Republican colleagues. Whoops. Turns out that the Waco Tribune Herald, in my hometown in Texas, did a little research. Mr. Craddick forgot to tell the Texas people about this. It turns out in 1971, as a State House member, Mr. Craddick was part of a group called the Dirty 30 that did exactly what these members have done this week: He walked out of the Texas House of Representatives to express a protest over issues.

Hypocrisy. I find it interesting that Speaker Craddick has referenced the Alamo in regard to this incident. Well, in all due respect, Mr. Craddick is no Davy Crockett, and if he would review his Texas history, Mr. Craddick would remember that the defenders of the Alamo were committed people of conscience, committed to the high principle of fighting to see that all Texans had a voice in shaping their families' and their communities' destinies.

That is what these 52 courageous Democrats are doing in Oklahoma today. They are fighting with the courage of their convictions. They are profiles in courage trying to see that all Texans, not just Mr. DELAY and Mr. Craddick, who, with a secret, behind-closed-door map, are trying to shape the future of our congressional districts in our great State.

Hypocrisy, I think, is an apt definition for the statements of Mr. Craddick, given what he did in 1971, walking out of the Texas House of Representatives with 29 of his colleagues.

Now, one of the other things that I find very distasteful that we have watched in the last several days is that, with glee, Republican House Members in Texas put together playing cards to mimic the liberty cards that were put together to identify terrorists in Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq. I find it deeply offensive, and I think most Texans will find it equally offensive, that Texas Republican legislators would try to compare Texas State officials, who have been elected by their citizens to stand up and fight for their freedoms and their opportunities, to